



It's hard to imagine the size of Ontario-412,582 square miles. How big is that?

If you were to place all of Texas, as well as Oklahoma and Louisiana, in the space occupied by Ontario, you would still have some elbow room to spare!

Appropriately, Ontario's Ministry of Natural Resources is one of the *l* argest organizations of its kind in the world.

Our aim is to be one of the most progressive organizations as welh. We are continually trying to improve our management of Ontario's abundant natural resources, and we recognize the importance of improving communications between you and the Ministry people working for you.

This folder will itell you of some of our activities and suggest how to obtain more information about natural resources and their management from your local District office.

A list of district auddresses and telephone numbers is given on the reverse side of the folder along with a map of Ontario showing the boundaries of districts, regions and geographic townships. I hope you will find the information useful.



Leo Bernier Minister Natural Resources

On April 1, 1972, the Ministry of Natural Resources was named as one of a number of new ministries formed during a major reorganization of the government of Ontario.

Our name represents the logical blending of two former Departments, Lands & Forests and Mines & Northern Affairs, and segments of Tourism & Information and Environment.

Our main responsibilities are to manage our natural resources to provide opportunities for outdoor recreation and resource development, both now and in the future; to ensure that adequate social and economic benefits are derived from the development of our natural resources; and to exercise a stewardship function over the publicly owned lands in the Province.

What We Do

To fulfill our responsibilities, we operate three major programs: Land Management, Outdoor Recreation, and Resource Management

As custodians of nearly 90 per cent of Ontario's land and water, our LAND MANAGEMENT PROGRAM plans and controls both the disposition and use of these resources to meet private and industrial damands.

In addition, we have to reserve or acquire areas (such as land for new parks, fisheries, wildlife and forest management) to provide for all Ministry programs

In co-operation with other government ministries, we share in the planning and control of all provincial lands and waters. This ensures a harmonious pattern of uses. As its name implies, the OUTDOOR
RECREATION PROGRAM provides a wide
variety of year round outdoor recreation opportunities for Ontario residents and non-residents. These include camping, canoeing, hiking,
snowmbiling, skingh, hurting, fishing, boating, swimming, picnicking,
well observations of natives.

The program also safeguards special or unique areas so their physicalbiological, historical and cultural features will be preserved. A good example is Canada's first underwater park

The RESOURCE MANAGEMENT PRO-GRAM contributes substantially to the economy of Ontario, particularly in the north where many 'single industry' towns depend directly on natural resources. It provides for the continuous and regulated use of fish, fur, minerals and trees.

Putting It All Together

Over 4,100 employees are working for you to help make these programs successful. Allogether, this work force represents fifty different wocations including clerks, biologists, pilots, engineers, research scientists, survey-ors, cartographers, geologists, planners, conservation officers, radio operators, draftsmen, librarians, foresters and forestry technicians.

Fish and Wildlife

Great advances have been made, and are continuing to be made, in the conservation and management of fish and wildlife.

Seasons and limits are set on popular fish and game species to allow the optimum harvest by anglers and hunters while keeping populations at the highest levels recommended by

Deer range has been improved in several areas to reduce the winter mortality of whitetails. The establishment of a network of Provincial wild-life areas is used to a decent and the second of the sec

About a thousand lakes and streams are surveyed in detail every summer to assess their water in relation to fish production. Our field staff are in frequent communication with anglers, helping them to get the most out of Ontario fishing.

Parks and Recreation

Our Provincial Parks are growing steadily and now cover more than ten million acres in well above 100 parks. They are divided into six classes: Recreation, Natural Environment, Primitive, Wild River, Nature Reserve, and

Outdoor recreation sub-programs extend beyond the boundaries of parks to offer additional water access points, snowmobiling trails, hiking trails and cance routes—we have

mapped 11,000 miles of canoe routes. In addition, forty Wilderness Areas are being preserved as close to

Parks for People

The 2,000-acre Bronte Creek Provincial Park will be the first of a series of "urban parks" to be established close to centres of population. Conveniently located between Toronto and Hamilton, it will be ready for public use in the surpmer of 1975.

Conservation Authorities

The outdoor recreation programs of the 200 conservation areas operated by Conservation authorities are a significant adjunct to the water management programs which are their primary responsibility. The Conservation Authorities Branch of this Ministry and our Regional Offices provide Bission with Conservation Authorities.

Planning Better Land Use

In addition to its surveying and mapmaking responsibilities the Division of Lands provides leadership in planning the use of land to help achieve the over-all provincial objectives of resource development within the best possible environment.

Forests for the Future

Through a forester's eyes, Ontario is a vast tree farm of 148,000 square miles of publicly owned, productive forests. To provide the raw material for forest-based industries on a permanent basis, new forest growth is encouraged by an extensive regeneration program.

Each year, our seven forest tree nurseries supply 70 million or more trees for planting out, and several million more are produced in small containers to meet special regeneraOur foresters recognize that they must produce more than fibre, and they plan for multiple-use forests with habitats for wildlife and aesthetic appeal for people.

Private Forest Owners

We are providing technical assistance to private forest owners, and each year we supply them with trees for 15,000 acres of new plantations.

In addition, we manage over 50,000 acres of forests for municipalties and Conservation Authorities.

Lots for Lease

On Crown land, summer cottage lots are no longer sold. They are leased. New subdivisions are reserved for Canadians for one year before a non-canadian may apply for a lease.

What's New?...Old Rocks

Perhaps you're interested in prospecting and dream of making a big discovery that will shake the mining world—but you don't really know much about minerals or prospecting techniques. Or perhaps you're fascinated by the two-billion-year-old story of the earth and the clues provide by rocks. Or, again, you may be one of the growing army of 'rock hounds'-people who collect and work with rocks and minerals just for the fun of it.

If you fit into any of these categories, the chances are you'll enjoy the Mineral Exploration courses given by the Division of Mines. These week-long courses are conducted free of charge each year in a dozen or more centres across the Province.

Perhaps the most important phase of the work of Geological Branch is the performance of geological field work to delineate the geology of the Province with particular emphasis on the potential for economic development of mineral deposits. The geological reports and maps (which are produced as a result of these surveys) are indispensable to prospectors and explosion of the properties of t

The staff of Geological Branch have also produced the popular Geology and Scenery's series of guidebooks which are used extensively by amateur geologists and rock hounds for their on-the-spot assistance in

The Mineral Research Branch naintains laboratory facilities for the sssay and analysis of mineral and rock amples. Some of the services are vailable to the mining industry and he general public.

or further information on "What we are ing for you," see the map side of this lder.)

that Ontario has one of the bestbalanced regional economies in Canada. It is rich in fertile agricultural lands, timber and pulpwood, precious and base metals, and abundant sources of water.

that our fish resources have supported an important commercial fishing industry for 150 years. This fishery is the largest producer of freshwater fish in North America and one of the largest in the world.

that Ontario is the largest producer of fine quality wild furs in North America. Our pelts of wild beaver, mink, marten and muskrat, to name a few, are eagerly sought by some of the world's leading fur stylists.

that the mineral industry in Ontario directly employs about 53,000 people—and directly and indirectly employs nearly 13 per cent of the Province's total labour force.

that Ontario's largest primary industry is mining.

that the first oil well in North America was drilled in Lambton County, southwestern Ontario.

that the Ministry's Air Service is one of the finest fire suppression forces in the world. It is equipped with a modern fleet of more than 40 aircraft.

that in addition to our eight Regional Offices and 49 District Offices, the Ministry's Northern Affairs Branch has 23 offices and 50 satellite offices spread across northern Ontario. These provide northern residents with information and assistance from the government and handle more than

that the basic forest industry in Ontario employs 78,000 persons and indirectly provides employment for an additional 135,000 people.

hat the Ministry of Natural Resources nurseries have produced more than one billion forest trees for use on both private and Crown ands since 1905 when our first nursery was established.

that our Junior Ranger Program each summer employs over 2,000 young men and women across Ontario where they enjoy outdoor work on road improvement, preparation of boat launching sites and canoe routes, trail and campsite clearing.

area in Ontario is publicly owner that Ontario's Provincial Parks at tract more than 12 million visitor



















